

2021 Fire Season Outlook

Issued June 3, 2021

Key Points



Current drought status: Near to below average precipitation in May has allowed severe to exceptional drought conditions to continue across northern Arizona.

Fuel Conditions: Energy Release Component (ERC): ERCs are generally above average for this time of year.

Temperature and Precipitation Outlooks:

June – Equal chances exist for above, near, or below normal precipitation across Arizona. Odds favor warmer than average conditions across Arizona.

July through September – The extended outlook favors above normal temperatures, with generally equal chances for above, near, or below average precipitation for monsoon season across Arizona.

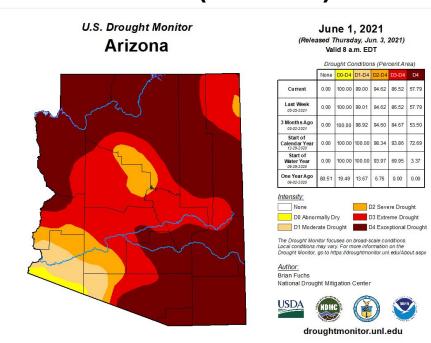
Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook: Above normal significant wildland fire potential is forecast across all of Arizona in June. With equal chances of above, near, or below average precipitation by July, the significant wildland fire potential should become normal by then.

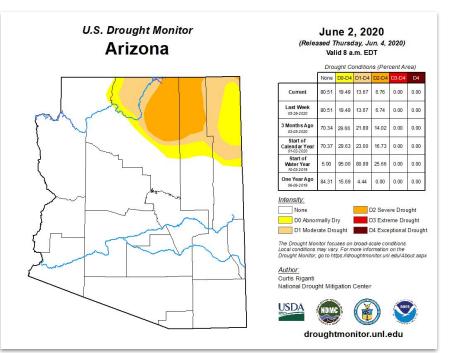
Drought Monitor Comparison



2021 (Current)

2020

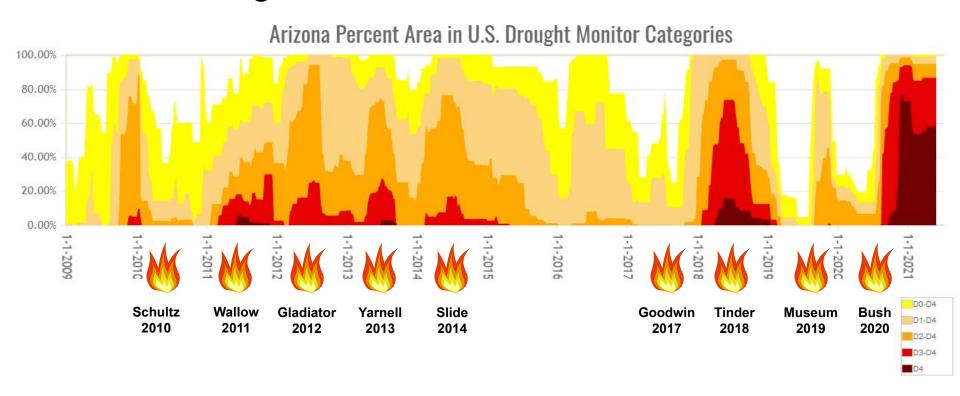




Comparing the latest drought monitor to the one from this time last year shows how drought conditions worsened across Arizona. Currently 100% of the entire state is in a drought, as opposed to 20% of the state this time last year.

Arizona Drought Monitor Timeline and Fires



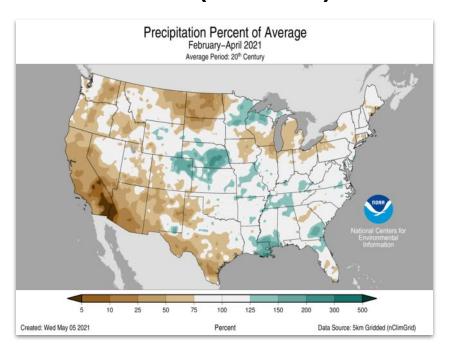


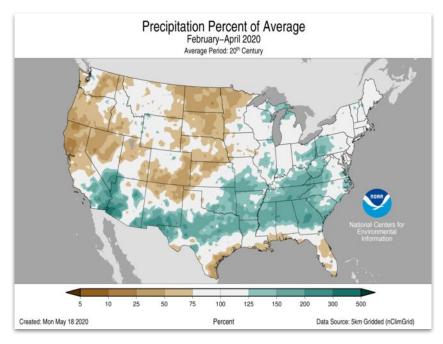
The image above is a timeline of the percent area of drought across the entire state of Arizona and fires that occurred during specified years.

Winter Precipitation % of Normal Comparison Flagstaff

2021 (Current)

2020

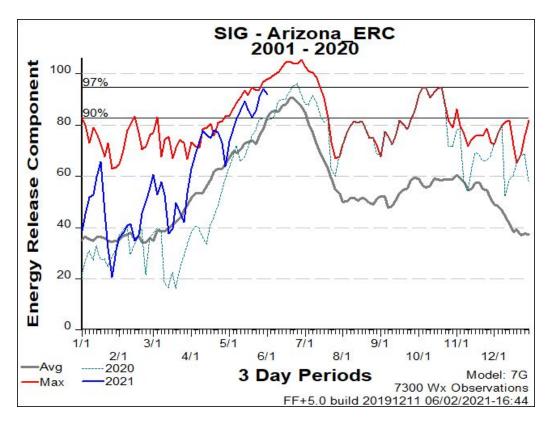




At or below normal precipitation kept drought conditions about the same across the state. Note that generally near to above normal precipitation was observed this time last year.

Energy Release Component (ERC) Graphs

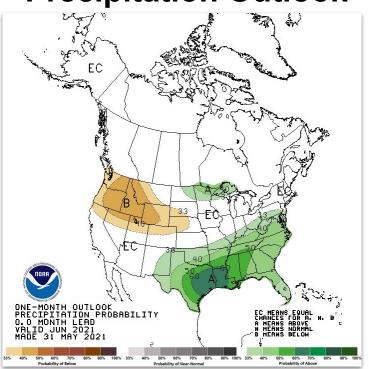




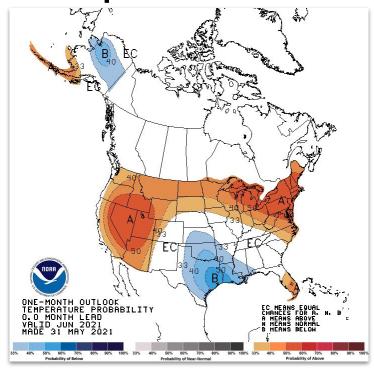
June CPC Outlook

NWS Flagstaff

Precipitation Outlook



Temperature Outlook

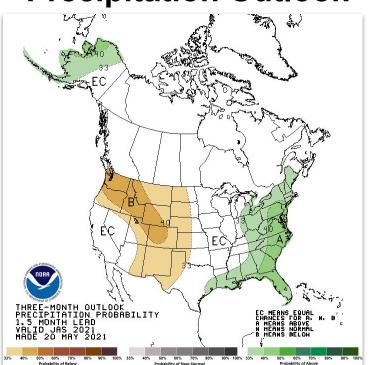


June will have equal chances for above, near, or below normal precipitation across Arizona. Odds favor warmer than average conditions.

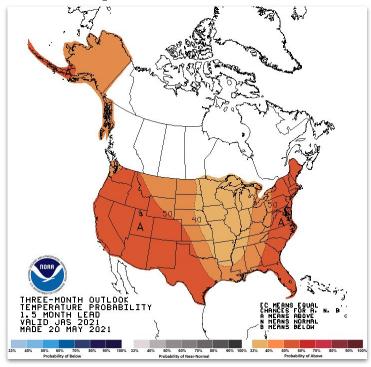
Monsoon Season (July-Aug-Sep) CPC Outlook



Precipitation Outlook



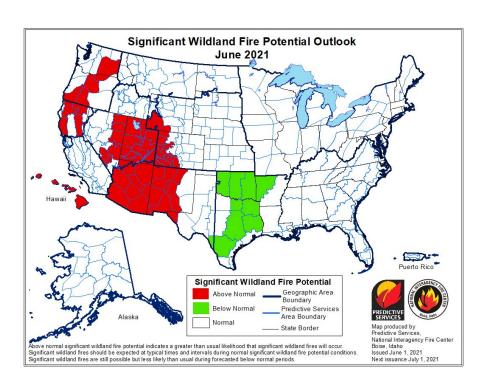
Temperature Outlook

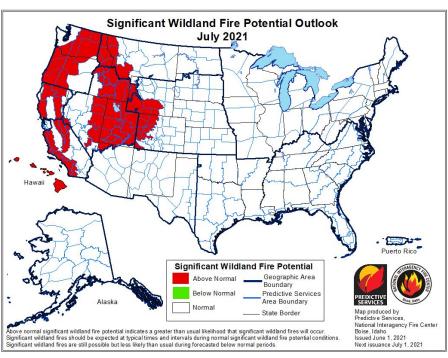


The July-August-September (monsoon season) combined average outlook indicates equal chances for above, near, or below normal precipitation across most of Arizona, with odds tilted in favor of drier than average conditions along the Arizona/New Mexico border. Odds favor warmer than average conditions across the state.

Significant Wildland Fire Potential Outlook







In June, all of Arizona is expected to have above normal significant wildland fire potential. With equal chance of above, near, or below average precipitation beginning in July, near normal significant wildland fire potential is forecast by then.

Summary



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